



# News Release

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

## Benton County

In August 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with licensed practical nurse **Hannah J. Baird** (LP00054640) that places her credential on probation. Baird must undergo an evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program, complete continuing education in ethics, and pay a \$2,000 fine. While working at a skilled nursing facility, Baird signed-out narcotic pain medication for patients on multiple occasions, but didn't document administering the medications to patients. The urine sample Baird submitted on a drug test was found to be inconsistent with normal human urine. She admitted buying and submitting synthetic urine.

## Chelan County

In May 2014 the Denturists Board denied a denturist credential to **Santiago Felipe Zayco** (DN60405641). In 2013 Zayco pleaded guilty in federal court to conspiracy to commit access device fraud and aggravated identity theft.

## Clark County

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **April R. Erickson** (NA60400410) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 Erickson pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance—methamphetamine, and attempted bail jumping.

In August 2014 the Massage Program charged massage practitioner **Todd Christiansen**, also known as Todd Harris (MA00008311), with unprofessional conduct. Christiansen's Oregon license was suspended until he pays a \$6,500 fine and completes a course in ethics and boundaries. Charges say he hasn't completed those requirements, and he also didn't notify the Washington program that his Oregon license was suspended.

In September 2014 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Cyndi M. McBain** (LP00028789) with unprofessional conduct. McBain and her husband owned and operated an adult family home that housed a patient with dementia. Charges say the patient didn't receive appropriate wound care, was malnourished, and was admitted to hospice care where he later died. The Department of Social and Health Services found McBain neglected and abused a vulnerable adult by failing to seek appropriate and timely medical intervention and treatment.

### **Grays Harbor County**

In August 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacist and pharmacist preceptor **Douglas L. Morrill** (PH00010338, PH60217116) with unprofessional conduct. The commission then entered into an agreement that places his credentials on probation for at least one year. Morrill must pay a \$1,000 fine, complete continuing education in pharmacy law and ethics, and write a report. He cannot serve as a pharmacist preceptor while he is on probation. A pharmacy assistant/pharmacy technician-in-training at a pharmacy Morrill managed released new prescriptions without a pharmacist performing counseling.

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Maria D. Aceto** (NC10045871) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 she was convicted of third-degree theft.

### **Island County**

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Cassandra Denise Pendergrass** (NC60489332) and placed her on probation for at least 15 months. A 2013 agreement put terms and conditions on her registered nursing assistant license. In 2004 Pendergrass was convicted in Nevada of embezzlement of \$2,500 or more.

### **King County**

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the certified nursing assistant credential of **Corey Stephen Swinburne** (NC60197808) and ordered him to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. Swinburne's license was suspended in 2012 because he didn't comply with an agreement to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program.

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Christina Amonoo**, also known as Janet Afua Azanor (NA00199349), with unprofessional conduct. When she applied for her license, she certified that she'd used no names other than Christina Amonoo. The state Department of Licensing later determined her true name to be Janet Afua Azanor. Charges say she admitted to a Social Security Administration agent that she used fraudulent documents that allowed her to work in the United States.

In August 2014 the Massage Program charged massage practitioner **Reggy Michael Nelson** (MA60115994) with unprofessional conduct. After asking a client whether she wanted her pectoral muscles massaged, Nelson allegedly removed draping material and manually manipulated her breasts. Nelson faces a criminal charge of indecent liberties.

In September 2014 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Amparo Soraya Delgado** (LP00056594) with unprofessional conduct. Delgado allegedly didn't comply with a 2014 stipulation.

### **Kitsap County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Elizabeth J. Clement** (NC10081160) with unprofessional conduct. While working at a veteran's home, Clement allegedly didn't follow a requirement to use a hydraulic lift to transfer a patient for bathing. Charges say the patient suffered a shoulder injury that required surgery.

### **Pierce County**

In September 2014 the Nursing Commission filed an amended statement of charges against registered nurse **Erich Arlt** (RN00137850). In 2005 Arlt was convicted of two domestic violence charges: reckless endangerment and violating a protection order. In 2007 he was convicted of two domestic violence charges: felony harassment and telephone harassment. In 2011 he was convicted of four domestic violence charges: violating a no-contact order, fourth-degree assault, interfering with the reporting of domestic violence, and reckless endangerment. Charges say Arlt didn't report the convictions to the Nursing Commission as required by law.

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Renate Ursula Chesmer** (NC10093661) with unprofessional conduct. While Chesmer worked at an adult family home, the co-worker who relieved her allegedly noted that seven of a patient's oxycodone pills were missing. Chesmer's employer fired her after she didn't respond to several attempts to contact her about the missing medication. While Chesmer was working at another facility, she allegedly admitted taking two patients' narcotic medication for her own use. In 2014 she was convicted of third-degree theft in connection with those incidents. Chesmer hasn't responded to a Department of Health inquiry.

### **Spokane County**

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Lisa Marie Roberts** (NA60268041) with unprofessional conduct. Roberts allegedly used a care center resident's credit card to make 376 fraudulent charges totaling \$18,553.48, and used the resident's checking account to pay some of the credit card debt she had accrued. Roberts faces criminal charges in connection with the allegations.

### **Thurston County**

In August 2014 the Nursing Commission filed an amended statement of charges against registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Sharol L. Chavez** (RN00127449, AP30004745) to add allegations that involve prescribing excessive amounts of controlled substances. Chavez's licenses were suspended in 2013 and remain suspended.

### **Whatcom County**

In August 2014 the Pharmacy Commission entered an agreement with pharmacist **Kevin L. Faris** (PH00019349) that fines him \$30,000, places him on probation for three years, and restricts him from serving as a pharmacist preceptor for the same period. Faris owned a pharmacy that didn't follow rules on appropriate return and reuse of medications from long-term care facilities.

In September 2014 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified medical assistant credential to **Patricia Sharon Walden** (CM60382670) and placed her on probation until at least March 14, 2015. In 2012 her health care assistant license was placed on probation until the 2015 date.

### **Whitman County**

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Wendy P. Harper** (NC60114923) with unprofessional conduct. Harper allegedly didn't comply with restrictions in a 2013 stipulation, and falsely documented giving medications to a patient.

### **Yakima County**

In August 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Vanessa Guizar** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Guizar doesn't have a massage practitioner credential. Charges say she advertised massage services, texted an investigator that "I massage just ladies," and at least once engaged in the practice of massage.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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